

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 103703 TOSEC 040212

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CHEROKEE - FOR THE SECRETARY FROM CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: EVENING READING

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SATURDAY'S EVENING READING:

1. SOUTHERN LEBANON. THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION ON THE FINANCING OF UNIFIL CONCLUDED LAST NIGHT AFTER ADOPTING A RESOLUTION, BY A VOTE OF 99 TO 13, PROVIDING THAT THE EXPENSES OF THE FORCE BE BORNE BY ALL UN MEMBERS. THE NEGATIVE VOTES WERE CAST BY THE SOVIET BLOC, SUGGESTING THAT THEY WILL REFUSE TO PAY THEIR ASSESSMENTS. THE SESSION WAS MARKED BY INTENSE CRITICISM OF ISRAEL FOR FAILING TO SET A SCHEDULE FOR WITHDRAWAL, AND THE RESOLUTION CALLS FOR ISRAEL "TO FULFILL ITS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 425." A MUCH HARSHER CONDEMNATORY RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY THE ARABS WAS DROPPED AFTER WE AND OTHER

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WESTERN MEMBERS OBJECTED.

REPORTING TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON HIS MIDDLE EAST TRIP ON APRIL 20, WALDHEIM SAID HE WOULD NOT REQUEST A FURTHER INCREASE IN UNIFIL TROOPS UNTIL EARLY MAY. HE INDICATED THAT, ONCE THE PRESENT STAGE OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL WAS COMPLETED, HE WOULD ASK THAT UNIFIL BE

INCREASED TO 6,000. UNIFIL CURRENTLY IS APPROACHING 3,000 MEN WITH THE ARRIVAL OF ADDITIONAL LOGISTICS PERSONNEL FROM FRANCE AND NORWAY.

2. EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. YESTERDAY, ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES WENT TO NEW YORK FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH WALDHEIM ON CYPRUS. WALDHEIM'S CONCERN IS THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WILL REJECT ANY UN CALL FOR THE RESUMPTION OF TALKS UNLESS THE TURKS AGREE PUBLICLY BEFOREHAND TO RETURN A "SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF OCCUPIED TERRITORY" --INCLUDING VAROSHA--TO GREEK CONTROL. EVEN SHOULD THIS OCCUR, WALDHEIM IS NOT CONFIDENT KYPRIANOU WOULD ACCEPT. WALDHEIM HAS CONCLUDED THAT BOTH SIDES HAVE BECOME SO PREOCCUPIED WITH THE DEBATE IN THE CONGRESS ON THE LIFTING OF THE TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO THAT THE NEGOTIATION OF A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT HAS BECOME SECONDARY.

WALDHEIM IS ASKING HIS NEW REPRESENTATIVE IN CYPRUS TO ATTEMPT TO BRING THE TWO PARTIES CLOSER TO TALKS. WE ARE EXPLORING WHETHER THERE IS ANY HOPE OF RESTARTING THE TALKS ON THE BASIS OF UN ASSURANCES THAT BOTH SIDES WILL BE FLEXIBLE, OR ON THE BASIS OF SWEETENED TURKISH PROPOSALS. WITHOUT SOME NEW INITIATIVE FROM OUTSIDE, THE QUESTION OF WHETHER ECEVIT AND THE TURKISH SIDE ACTUALLY PLAN TO NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY AND FLEXIBLY IS
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UNLIKELY TO BE TESTED.

3. LATIN AMERICA. WE HAVE NOTED AN INCREASE IN POPULAR DISCONTENT ATTRIBUTABLE TO PERSISTENTLY LOW OR DECLINING LIVING STANDARDS IN A NUMBER OF HEMISPHERE COUNTRIES. TO MEET BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS AND DEBT-SERVICING PROBLEMS ARISING FROM SLOW ECONOMIC GROWTH AND HIGH OIL PRICES, THE NATIONS OF THE HEMISPHERE ARE ADOPTING AUSTERITY MEASURES WHICH CAN AGGRAVATE ALREADY VOLATILE INTERNAL SITUATIONS.

IN JAMAICA, DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST INADEQUATE LIVING CONDITIONS BY THE HARD-CORE UNEMPLOYED LEFT THREE DEAD. IN ECUADOR, CONTINUING STUDENT RIOTS TRIGGERED BY A 40 PERCENT BUS FARE INCREASE REFLECT DISSATISFACTION WITH THE RISING COST OF LIVING AND INCOME INEQUALITY. IN PERU, STRIKES IN SEVERAL URBAN CENTERS REVEAL THE FRAGILE POLITICAL BASIS FOR NEEDED AUSTERITY MEASURES. IN GUYANA, DISTURBANCES AMONG PEOPLE SEEKING TO PURCHASE GOODS IN SHORT SUPPLY HAVE BEEN REPORTED. IN ARGENTINA, THE PURCHASING POWER OF WAGE EARNERS HAS FALLEN SOME 20 PERCENT OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS. ONE RESULT OF THESE

PRESSURES WILL BE INTENSIFIED DEMANDS ON US ON THE WIDE

RANGE OF ISSUES IN THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

4. BRAZIL. BRAZIL IS SEEKING TO ACQUIRE FOR ITS POLICE FORCES THREE COMPUTERIZED FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEMS WHICH ARE MADE BY ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL AND COST \$5 MILLION APIECE. THE BRAZILIANS AND ROCKWELL ARE BOTH PRESSING FOR A DECISION NOW. DISAPPROVAL OF THE LICENSES WILL PROBABLY STRAIN OUR RELATIONS WITH THE BRAZILIANS, WHEREAS APPROVAL COULD GENERATE CRITICISM OF OUR HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES. THIS EQUIPMENT WOULD BE USED PRIMARILY FOR NORMAL CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION AND INVESTIGATION PURPOSES. IT WOULD NOT BE PARTICULARLY SECRET

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USEFUL FOR THE APPREHENSION OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AND WOULD NOT HAVE A DIRECT RELATIONSHIP TO THE PHYSICAL TREATMENT OF PRISONERS, WHICH REMAINS HARSH IN BRAZIL. ON THE OTHER HAND, APPROVAL OF THIS LICENSE WOULD BE THE FIRST OCCASION ON WHICH WE HAD APPROVED ANY SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE BRAZILIAN POLICE DURING THIS ADMINISTRATION.

THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN BRAZIL HAS BEEN IMPROVING SLOWLY SINCE EARLY LAST YEAR. GIVEN THE NATURE OF THE EQUIPMENT, THE EVOLUTION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN BRAZIL, AND THE STRAINS THAT DENIAL OF THE LICENSES WOULD PUT ON OUR RELATIONS WITH BRAZIL, WE ARE PLANNING TO APPROVE THEM. CHRISTOPHER

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